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Organizer Vanessa Rasmussen and Minister Dowers

See story on page 12

New Obama plan to cut down on oil market fraud

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama, under pressure from high gasoline prices in an election year, yesterday unveiled a new five-point plan to cut down on fraud and manipulation in the oil market.

The White House said in a statement that Americans needed to know oil markets were not influenced illegally when "instability in the Middle East is contributing to rising global oil prices that impact consumers at the pump."

Officials said the effort would include a request from Congress to fund more surveillance and enforcement staff to monitor oil futures trading at the

US Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC).

Obama's effort would also fund technology upgrades to aid oversight and surveillance of the energy market and increase civil and criminal penalties for those found guilty of market manipulation from \$1 million to \$10 million.

Other steps include measures to help the CFTC deal with increased price volatility and to prevent excessive market speculation, disruption and volatility.

The president rolled out the plan in an announcement in the White House Rose Garden at 11 am, the White House said.

Obama is under rising political pressure for more action on high gasoline prices, which while low by some European

standards, averaged \$3.9 per gallon of regular gasoline yesterday, according to the American Automobile Association.

Republicans say Obama is to blame for high oil prices, demanding more oil and gas drilling in America, and want the president to endorse the blocked Keystone XL pipeline project from Canada to the US Gulf Coast.

"If there's fraud going on, the administration has the tools to stop it," said Brendan Buck, spokesman for John Boehner, speaker of the House of Representatives. "The truth is the president's policies are restricting American energy production, and he's looking for a scapegoat. The American people aren't going to buy it."



CHANTILLY, Virginia: AFP photo shows Space Shuttle Discovery, mounted atop a 747 shuttle carrier aircraft, landing at Washington Dulles International Airport during the final trip to its retirement place in Chantilly, Virginia, yesterday. The longest-serving orbiter in the space shuttle fleet was flown from Kennedy Space Center in Florida to the Washington, DC area to be transferred to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum and will be placed on display in the museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center.



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Prof. Dr. Ryan R. Peterson to Keynote Marketplace on Strategic Entrepreneurship and Service Exports



WILLEMSTAD -- The Curaçao Chamber of Commerce and Industry is organizing the sixth annual edition of 'Marshe pa Empresario', i.e., a business marketplace by entrepreneurs for entrepreneurs, which will take place on April 18th 2012 in the World Trade Center. With the main theme this year being 'Entrepreneurship, Export and Services', the marketplace effectively covers a need within the entrepreneurial community by facilitating local (starting and growing) businesses with educational and instructive workshops as well as accessible information booths. The combination of workshops, seminars and discussions provides entrepreneurs the opportunity to obtain answers to questions they may have. It also gives them the opportu-

nity to acquire knowledge that is essential to successfully manage their business.

Service Export Innovation
For this special event, Prof. Dr. Ryan R. Peterson will be providing several seminars and a key note address during the main dinner event on strategic entrepreneurship and service exports. His keynote will be on service export innovation strategies for small savvy island economies. According to Peterson, it is no secret that states and nations, both small and large, and economies and industries across the globe are experiencing tectonic transformations as they face tumultuous times of recession and recovery. Caught between volatility and vulnerability, and seeking to move beyond recovery towards resilience, national economies are indeed facing a new normal as they attempt to hold on to past and present competitiveness, and position themselves for future economic development and prosperity.

Continued on page 5

Happy belated birthday, Yanis



Last Monday, The Morning News was in a uproar. Yes, Yanis, the Man of the House celebrated his birthday. His chicas were invited to Divi to enjoy a scrumptious lunch prepared by Mom herself. Photo shows The Morning News Team enjoying Yanis' birthday. Hope you had a great day, Yanis.

I love Aruba Kite Slam!

ORANJESTAD -- End of this month promises to be very exciting with our annual Kite flying competitions! The organizing commission has already met to work on the planning details of this grand and biggest ever Kite Flying event!

This event is going to be the first lustrum of SV Jong Aruba Lifida. They are organizing this 2012 kite flying competition. This year's event promises to be the largest ever with many more attractions. This 2012 event will be dedicated to the memory of Gina Tromp-Kelly, who was the brainchild of this event from its inception.

This time there will be two nights of flying illuminated kites! Last year, due to a short registration period, some com-



petitors were unable to participate. This time around, however, there will be two nights for flying illuminated kites so that everyone will have an opportunity to participate.

The first night for flying kites with lights on them (illu-



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Continued on page 3

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I love Aruba Kite Slam!

Continued from page 2

There will also be kite flying during the day. Actually, two days will be dedicated to flying kites, Sunday, April 29th and Monday, April 30th. On the last day they will allow some giant kites to be raised...kites of up to 6 meters!

On the first day, the organizers will allow kites in three categories:

Category A: 0.50 to 1.00 meter in size.

Category B: kites of 1.05 to 1.50 meters in size. And, Category C: 1.55 to 2.00 meters.

On the second day, Sunday, April 30th: there will also be three categories. This will be Category D: 2.50 meter up to 3.25 meters. Category E will be for kites the size of 3.50 meters up to 4.25 meters. And, Category F will be for kites in the size rang of 4:30 to 5:00 meters!

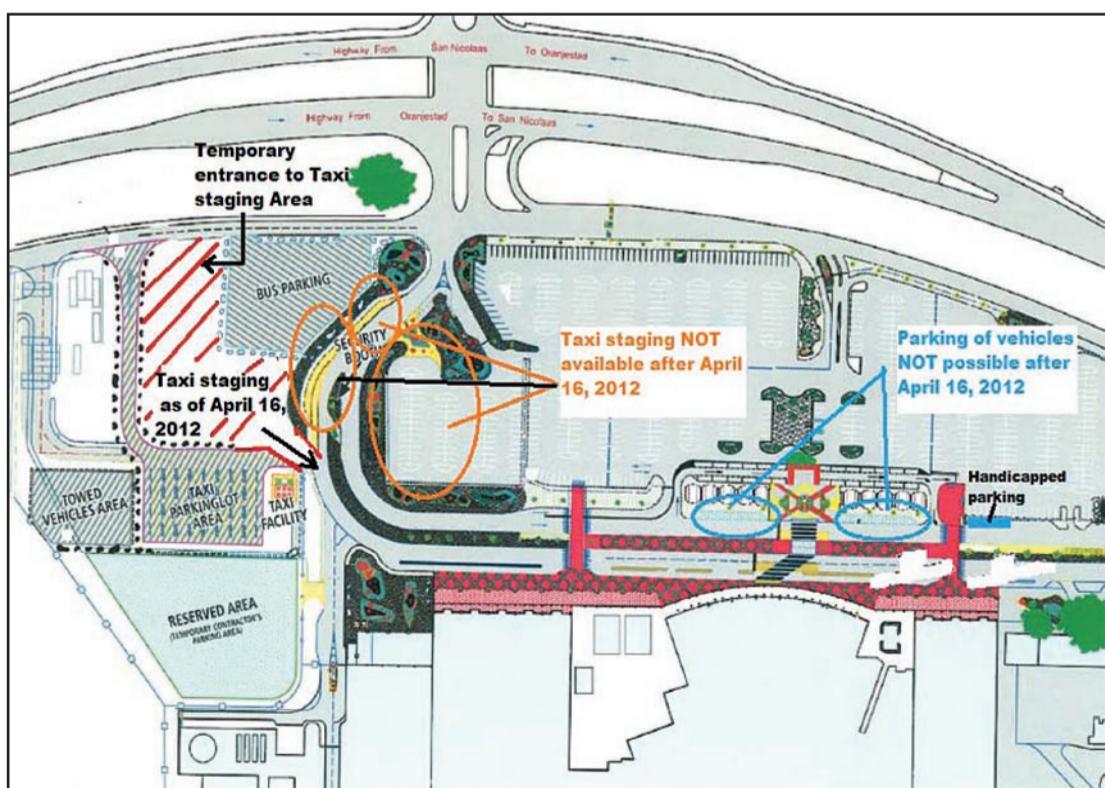
Registration begins Monday the 23rd of April. More information concerning this kite flying event will be forthcoming. Get to work on building your kite today!

Important notice to taxi drivers, government authorities and airport users regarding project at the airport

Part of the next phase of the Landside Development project at the Aeropuerto Internacional Reina Beatrix, the Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) is to modify the primary road lane and the secondary road lane in order to enhance the quality of service to the airport users, namely the taxi staging area, the taxi, bus and public pick up and drop off areas will be completely modified. As of April 16, 2012, the contractor will barricade and close part of the access and egress road to the airport terminal in order to execute the modification as mention on the primary and the secondary road lane.

The taxi staging area currently west of the staff parking (adjacent to staff parking) will be temporarily relocated to the west side of the bus staging area (see lay out plan) in order for the contractor to construct the new taxi staging area. There will be proper signs that will indicate the exact entrance and exit for this temporary taxi staging area.

The parking areas located in front of the car rental booths (in secondary lane) which are



now being used by the local authorities and AAA will no longer be available as of April 16, 2012. Unless otherwise indicated the abovementioned users should park as of April 16, 2012 in the staff parking lot.

To expedite the service provided on our airport premises whilst complying with security/traffic regulations, we remind our users that users should comply with instructions given by the Airport Traffic personnel at all times. As

the works progress notifications will be sent out in order to keep the public and the airport users properly informed of the developments of the project of any changes to the transportation logistics at the airport.



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Twelve Aruban youth to participate in US public service program

ORANJESTAD -- The Aruba government has recently afforded a dozen Aruban young people the opportunity to head to Washington to participate in a US public service program called "Close Up."

Last Saturday the group of Aruban youth left Aruba to travel to Washington. These young people will participate in different programs having to do with public service. They will attend lecture sessions detailing information on how the country is managed, and learn of the different control elements to ensure a live democracy.

It is said that the state of Washington breathes an ambience of public service, and a dedication of talent which benefits the country. The hope is that our Aruban young people

will catch this spirit and learn from it.

According to the government, our young people is extremely important to us, in that they are destined to be the future leaders of our country. This is why such a program is important for their personal development and formation. Together with the help of the University of Aruba and the private sector, we were able to send this group of 12 young people to Washington to participate in this "Close Up" program.

During their visit to Washington, it is our hope that our young people will learn how this city thinks and works, and that they will focus not on what does not function well, but on that which makes a difference in the lives of the citizens of that country. That they will get a glimpse of how that city influences and inspires professional youth.



are expected to learn how the democratic process functions from Washington to the rest of the country.

Before leaving for Washington, the Aruban youth were briefed by University of Aruba's Luciano Milliard on the American Constitution.

The Prime Minister of Aruba, who was very instrumental in the realization of this program, is convinced that each of these young people will return inspired and cognizant of the immense value that public service has in a country. The trip is certain to have an impact on their formation as individuals who may be serving our community in the future.

Although rather expensive, the government hopes to continue these types of educational missions for our young people.

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Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring Mr. Herbert and Mrs. Hannah Nelsbach from Tenants Harbor, Maine, USA, as Ambassadors of Goodwill of Aruba. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20 or more consecutive years. Herbert and Hannah come to Aruba to recharge their body, health and soul every year, and as soon as they get home they will book their next flight to Aruba. Mrs. Nelsbach is also an Artist and she gets inspired every time she visits Aruba for her new paintings. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mr. Gerrit Griffith General Manager and Mrs. Hilda Mills from the activities department of the Divi Village.

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Prof. Dr. Ryan R. Peterson to Keynote Marketplace on Strategic Entrepreneurship and Service Exports

Continued from page 2

Within this new normal, government-as-always and business-as-usual will not suffice, and seeking new innovative ways of development are a strategic imperative. Consequently, while acknowledging the importance of existing internationally-oriented economic architectures of trade, tourism, financial and educational services, his keynote will not discuss or delve into a one-size fits all recipe of, e.g., macro-economic stability, fiscal prudence, parliamentary democracy, good governance, micro-economic efficiency, (tourism) market competitiveness, foreign direct investments, trade relations, labor productivity, educational de-

velopment, social cohesion, gender equity, heritage preservation, and/or environmental conservation.

These are standard prescriptions and 'best practices' that have been proven - although not always implemented - for well over two decades in discussions on island development. They represent a 'must' for relative economic development and comparative competitiveness. Simply put, these are basic requirements for entering the global competitive game, but are not sufficient to sustain competitiveness in a context of not only changing rules, but more importantly, changing games.

During his keynote address, Prof. Dr. Peterson will, however, engender a strategic conversation and stimulate strategic thinking on the opportunities, strategies and capabilities for strategic entrepreneurship and service export innovation in the Caribbean. Hereto he will move beyond the traditional tactics of seeking stability and staying within classical arenas and comfort-zones, and seek to embrace chaos, volatility, and risk, with creativity, vitality, and resilience.

Illustrating emerging global and regional island practices on strategic innovations in knowledge-intensive service exports, Prof. Dr. Peterson will share insights on the creative capabilities of savvy island economies, including the importance and interplay of (global and local) images, innovation, intelligence and institutions. In conversation with the audience, he will explore the notion of 'iCaribbean'® for rethinking, repositioning and redesigning a resiliently creative economy that can meet, overcome and thrive on

the turbulent challenges of a 21st century.

Strategic Entrepreneurship

During his seminars, Prof. Dr. Peterson will shift from "macro" to "micro" and will focus on strategic entrepreneurship. Specifically, he will be leading a workshop on the 7 habits of highly effective entrepreneurs. Whether as a start-up or a (small/medium-sized) enterprise-in-development, entrepreneurship has become a core competence for competing in a dynamic environment. While change may have been constant a decade ago, today's leaders and entrepreneurs face discontinuous change and disruptive transformations that border on the edge of chaos. In fact, leadership cannot afford non-entrepreneurship, and entrepreneurship cannot afford non-leadership, as the two have become symbiotically synonymous with successful (small/medium-size) enterprise.

This workshop will discuss, in a highly interactive and illustrative format, what it takes



to enterprise and to 'entrepreneur' a hypercompetitive environment (within the context, constraints and competencies of Caribbean island economies). Specifically, in actively engaging the participants, the workshop will explore and explain what entrepreneurship is, what the habits of effective entrepreneurship are, and what it takes to be(come) an entrepreneur. Participants will be able to practice and assess their own personal habits of entrepreneurship.

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

International News

Despite scandal, Obama confident in Secret Service boss

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The White House Tuesday expressed confidence in the chief of the US Secret Service, but the elite bodyguard unit's Colombian sex scandal deepened, with claims that 20 women were involved.

Secret Service Director Mark Sullivan is coming under increasing political pressure over allegations that agents sent to the Caribbean resort of Cartagena ahead of President Barack Obama's weekend visit consorted with prostitutes.

"The president has confidence in the director of the Secret Service," White House spokesman Jay Carney said.

"Secret Service Director Sullivan acted quickly in response to the incident and is overseeing an investigation as we speak into the matter," Carney said.

But Obama's spokesman did not directly respond to a question over whether Sullivan should step down if the probe finds Secret Service agents acted improperly ahead of the Summit of the Americas.

Obama has said he would be "angry" if the allegations are proven true, and has stressed US officials of all levels had a duty to behave properly when abroad representing their country.

US Republican Senator Susan Collins, meanwhile offered new details after a briefing from Sullivan on the alleged incident, which became public soon after Obama arrived in Colombia for the Summit of the Americas.

"Some 20 women foreign nationals were brought to the hotel in (Colombia), but allegedly marines were involved

with the rest," she said in a statement.

She warned that the security implications of the incident were "potentially extremely serious" amid fears the agents exposed themselves to blackmail.

Collins, the ranking Republican on the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee said Sullivan told her that the 11 recalled Secret Service agents had been interviewed about the incident.

A government source said Sunday that the agents had seen their top secret security clearances suspended pending the result of the investigation.

The incident has revived questions about the leadership of the Secret Service, which has an official mandate to protect the president and his family, and also works to combat currency counterfeiting and fraud.

Qatar says Syria not complying with peace plan

DOHA (AFP) - Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Jassem al-Thani said Tuesday that Syria is not complying with UN-Arab envoy Kofi Annan's peace plan and that it has failed to show any change to its approach.

"The Syrian regime has not complied with any" of the six points in Annan's plan, Sheikh Hamad told reporters following an Arab ministerial meeting in Doha.

"Until now we haven't seen any crucial changes in the way the Syrian regime is dealing with" the plan, he said. "We hope the killing would stop in Syria in order for the implementation to seriously begin."

The meeting comes as UN observers admitted they face a

tough task to firm up a ceasefire in Syria, as seven civilians were killed in the latest violence on the sixth day of a tenuous truce.

When asked about arming rebels, the Qatari premier said: "No, we haven't armed the opposition."

But "if the situation remains unresolved, the Syrian people must be helped to defend themselves," he said.

Qatar has taken a hawkish stance in favour of the year-old rebellion against Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

On Monday, Qatar's Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani said the chances of Annan's plan succeeding "are no higher than three percent", and that Syrians should not be

supported through peaceful means but "with arms".

Meanwhile, Arab League Secretary General Nabil al-Arabi, who also attended the Doha meeting along with Annan, said: "There must be an immediate and complete ceasefire in order for the political process to begin."

In a statement, the Arab ministerial committee urged "all parties to comply to the end of armed operations and human rights violations, and to ensure humanitarian aid reaches those who need it without any obstacles."

The Arab ministerial committee, chaired by Qatar, includes Saudi Arabia, Oman, Egypt, Sudan, Algeria, Iraq, and Kuwait.

Assange interviews Hezbollah chief in Russian TV debut

MOSCOW (AFP) - WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange on Tuesday made his debut as a chat show host on a Kremlin-funded channel with a deliberately shocking choice of first guest -- the leader of Hezbollah.

While still under house arrest in London, the founder of the whistle-blowing website spoke via video link to Hassan Nasrallah, whom both the United States and Israel consider a "terrorist."

Russia aired the show, called "The World Tomorrow," with fanfare on its international RT news channel.

The multi-lingual channel, which makes no secret of giving the Russian take on world affairs and has the slogan "Question More," built up anticipation by promising the first guest would outrage many.

"I won't be surprised if after the first show the hawks want not just to shut down Assange but us as well," channel director Margarita Simonyan wrote on her Twitter account, while stressing the guest was Assange's choice.

In his introduction, Assange called Nasrallah "one of the most extraordinary figures in the Middle East," and said he would examine why he is viewed by some as a "freedom fighter" and others as a "terrorist."

Speaking from what was

described as a secret location in Lebanon, Nasrallah beamed genially as he laid out the group's position on the Syrian conflict, flanked by the flags of Lebanon and Hezbollah.

He criticised the "American hegemony" and described Israel as an "inimical state" in comments dubbed into English in what the RT described as his "first interview in the West since the 2006 Israel-Lebanon war."

During the half-hour show, Assange sat at a desk in a small room wearing a creased white shirt, with books and recording equipment visible on shelves behind him.

RT scored a media coup by securing the show, while Assange said in a promotional interview that he had chosen the channel because it had higher penetration in the United States than Al-Jazeera.

Russian observers said the show's overtly provocative stance was bound to attract attention and in some ways chimed with Russia's foreign policy, which has featured anti-American statements during the presidential campaign.

Assange has been under house arrest for almost 500 days, awaiting judgment from the Supreme Court in London on whether he can be extradited to Sweden for questioning over allegations of rape and sexual assault



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Way of Life!

British Library buys Europe's oldest book for £9m

LONDON (AFP) - The St Cuthbert gospel, Europe's oldest intact book, will remain in Britain after a record-breaking fundraising campaign by the British Library.

Half of the £9 million (\$14.2 million, 10.8 million euros) required to purchase the 7th Century copy of the Gospel of St John came from

the National Heritage Memorial Fund with charitable foundations, trusts and the public making up the rest.

It is the largest ever campaign mounted by the library and ensures the manuscript, which was buried with the early English Christian leader on Lindisfarne, off north east England, in about 698 AD, stays in the UK.

"To look at this small and intensely beautiful treasure from the Anglo-Saxon period is to see it exactly as those who created it in the 7th Century would have seen it," said Lynne Brindley, the library's chief executive.

"The exquisite binding, the pages, even the sewing structure survive intact, offering us a direct connection

with our forebears 1300 years ago.

"This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to secure the gospel for the nation and we were both grateful and touched that so many people felt moved to support our campaign," she added.

The book was rediscovered in Durham Cathedral in 1104 when a Viking raid

US House Speaker Boehner endorses Romney

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Speaker of the House of Representatives John Boehner ended his neutrality Tuesday in the Republican presidential race, endorsing Mitt Romney and saying he'd be "proud" to help him win the US election.

"It's clear now Mitt Romney is going to be our nominee," Boehner told reporters following a bruising, months-long battle for the party's nomination to run against President Barack Obama in November.

Boehner had previously taken a neutral stance, citing his role as chairman of the Republican national convention in late August, as he sought to "make sure all candidates had a fair process and a fair opportunity."

A few hours later, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell followed suit.

Several other leading party figures in Congress including Boehner's deputy, House majority leader Eric Cantor, and establishment Republicans had thrown their support behind Romney, a former governor of Massachusetts, weeks ago.

Having stated that the way was now clear for Romney to seal the nomination, Boehner, who became House speaker in January 2011 after the Republican victory in mid-term elections the previous November, backed his decision.

"Mitt Romney has a set of economic policies that can put Americans back to work, and frankly, contrast sharply with the failed economic policies of President Obama," said Boehner, who has repeatedly clashed with the White House incumbent on economic policy.

Republican Representative Rob Woodall also said a Romney nomination was virtually inevitable, but stopped short of a direct endorsement.

forced the coffin to be moved.

The gospel, which has been on loan to the library since 1979, was sold by the clerical Society of Jesus (British Province) to raise money for education and restoration work.

It will now be displayed equally at the library and in the north east of England.

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Health & Living



KARACHI, Pakistan - This handout photograph released by the National Institute of Child Health (NICH) on April 16, 2012, shows a newly-born child with six legs as he lies in an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) ward at a hospital in Karachi. Doctors in Pakistan are fighting to save the life of a baby boy born with six legs because of a rare genetic condition, hospital officials said.

AFP/ Photo

Anti-AIDS pill makes cash sense for some gays

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Gay men who have five or more sex partners per year are part of a high-risk group that could benefit from a daily pill to ward off HIV, said a cost-benefit analysis by US researchers on Monday.

The study by experts at Stanford University, published in the Annals of Internal Medicine, looked at the costs involved with prescribing a \$26 a day pill to men who have sex with men.

The pill, Truvada (tenofovir-emtricitabine), was shown in a landmark 2010 trial published in the New England Journal of Medicine to prevent HIV infections in as many as 73 percent of gay men who took it regularly.

Gay men account for the more than half of the 56,000 new cases yearly of human immunodeficiency virus in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

However, questions have been raised about whether it would make financial sense to recommend that large populations of gay men take a daily pill as prevention, or a technique known as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).

Prescribing the pill generally to men who have sex with men in the United States would cost \$495 billion over 20 years, but targeting those at highest risk only would bring costs down to \$85 billion, said

the study.

Looking out over the next two decades, researchers calculated a total of 490,000 new infections if PrEP is not used.

But if 20 percent of gay men take the pill daily, there would be nearly 63,000 fewer infections.

And if just 20 percent of high-risk men took the drug, 41,000 new infections would be prevented over 20 years at a cost of about \$16.6 billion.

Researchers used a measure of how long people live and their quality of life, valued at \$50,000 per year, versus the average costs of the pill and doctor visits totaling about \$10,000 per year.

"In the current health-care climate, PrEP's costs may become prohibitive, especially given the other competing priorities for HIV resources, such as providing treatment for infected individuals."

Previous research has found the pill as prevention would not make financial sense if taken for life, but the Stanford team said its formula differed because it presumed just a 20-year period of pill-taking.

Truvada is currently available as a treatment for people with HIV in combination with other anti-retroviral drugs.

Drug maker Gilead Sciences Inc. of California has filed a supplemental new drug application to market it for prevention purposes.

Sci-Tech

Amazon, Apple, Twitter score low on clean energy

(AFP) - Amazon, Apple and Twitter were graded poorly Tuesday in a Greenpeace study of technology titans' use of clean energy to power the mushrooming Internet cloud, but Facebook, Google and Yahoo! won praise.

The environmental charity's "How Clean is your Cloud?" report, billed as a rallying cry instead of a critique, related to the companies' use of data centers and other energy issues.

"We are not trying to give them a hard time, we are trying to build them up to do the right thing," Greenpeace senior campaign specialist Casey Harrell told AFP.

"We love our iPhones, they make our lives better; but they shouldn't make the planet worse."

Cupertino, California-based Apple got "D" grades for efficiency of datacenters, sharing information about power use, and lobbying utilities to provide clean energy.

Apple was given a flunking "F" when it came to locating datacenters in places where electricity comes from

clean sources instead of climate-ruining coal.

Apple, however, rejected the Greenpeace findings as outdated or flat-out wrong, and said it was leading the pack when it comes to shifting datacenters to clean energy.

The company's new North Carolina datacenter aims to get more than 60 percent of its power from renewable sources including an on-site solar farm and a fuel cell installation touted as the largest of their kind in the United States.

The facility will be "the greenest datacenter ever built" and will be joined next year by one in Oregon powered completely by renewable energy, according to Apple spokeswoman Kristin Huguet.

Amazon.com and its cloud-based Amazon Web Services got failing grades in all but datacenter energy efficiency, where it got a "D."

Technology firms tend to be tight-lipped about datacenter power use for competitive reasons, and Amazon.com said the information about it deduced by Greenpeace was "inaccurate."

While datacenter efficiency is a worthwhile goal, switching to clean energy is needed to safeguard the health of the planet, according to Greenpeace.

The trend of software hosted in the Internet "cloud" to provide services such as Web-based email, video viewing, picture sharing, social networking and "tweeting" is driving demand for datacenters.

If the world's datacenters were considered a country, it would rank fifth when it came to electricity consumption in a global ranking of nations, according to Greenpeace.

A major factor in locating datacenters has been cheap electricity, resulting in them being built in places where utilities generate power by burning coal, a prime source of climate changing carbon gas emissions.



MEXICO CITY, Mexico : Activists wearing bull masks takes part in a rally to protest against bullfighting, on April 17, 2012 in Mexico City. The demonstrators are demanding the Legislature to put a stop to bullfights in Mexico.

AFP PHOTO



XALITXINTLA, Mexico - Ash and smoke are spewed from Popocatepetl Volcano as seen from the town of Xalitxintla in the central state of Puebla, 12 km from the crater, on April 17, 2012. Residents of nearby communities reported roaring noises from the Popocatepetl volcano near Mexico City on Tuesday after signs of increased activity prompted authorities to raise alert levels.

AFP PHOTO

Everyday green lifestyle tips:

- Think before you print your emails and attachments, we can save trees by only printing out necessary documents!
- When buying a new shower curtain purchase a cotton one to reduce the VOC you breath in & it can be washed over & over.
- Donate your old towels to a local animal shelter, clear room in the house & give a furry friend a soft place to rest.
- Keep a beautiful cactus nearby in your office to freshen the air as you work.
- When bringing your lunch to work, use tupperware or reusable containers instead of plastic and paper bags.
- Save your old coffee grinds and reuse them for great fertilizer for indoor and outdoor plants!
- Instead of using plastic bags for produce try reusable bags - they are better for the environment & keep produce fresher.



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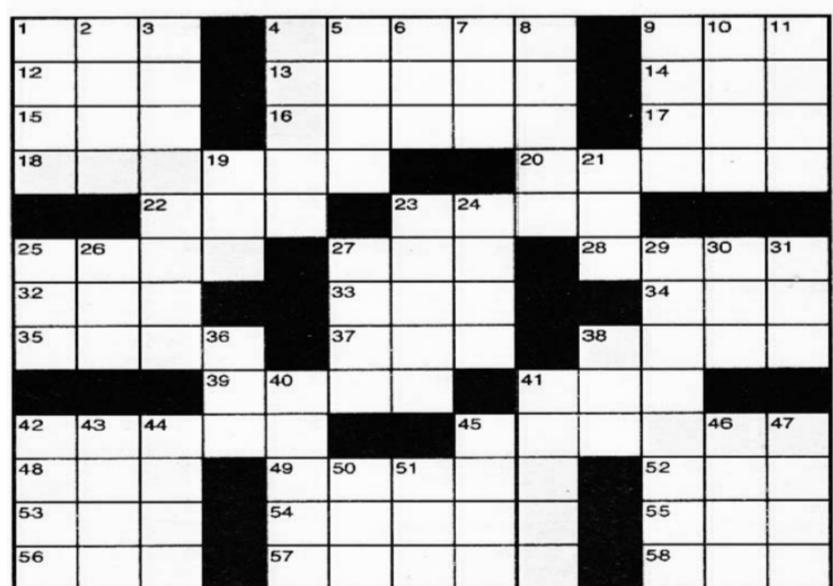


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ACROSS

- Best on a team (abbr.)
- Michigan, e.g.
- roll (2 wds.)
- Clock numeral
- Director DeMille
- Take it on the ___ (flee)
- Cariou or Deighton
- Very skilled
- Compass dir.
- Is a boarder at
- Keyboard instrument
- Atlantic fish
- ___ colada (cocktail)
- Selves
- Family room
- Shaving mishap
- Foil metal
- Island (Fr.)
- Miss Piggy's word for "me"
- Draft status (hyph.)
- Two make a qt.
- Leaning Tower city
- Fancy gyms
- Barracks fixture
- Lawrence of "Carol Burnett"
- Family room
- Shaving mishap
- Foil metal
- Island (Fr.)
- Miss Piggy's word for "me"
- Draft status (hyph.)
- Two make a qt.
- Leaning Tower city
- Fancy gyms
- Barracks fixture
- Lawrence of "Carol Burnett"



- Burn with steam
- Danson and Knight
- Highest card
- Sharp point
- Rocker ___ John
- Designer Cassini
- Cape Canaveral gp.
- Worshiper's word
- ___ Alamos
- Went rapidly
- Undressed skins
- Chills champagne
- Ike's theater
- ___ rummy
- Kelly of morning TV
- Counterfeited
- Businesses (abbr.)
- Korean auto name
- Interrogate
- "The Bells" poet
- Dosage units
- Lewis and ___
- Passport endorsement
- The ___ of March
- Tricks
- Canadian Indian tribe
- Sound quality
- Pieces of turf
- Feel flush
- French article

DOWN

- Placid
- Vista
- Conifer seed (2 wds.)

SOLUTION

9	3	7	6	5	2	4	1	8
2	4	8	6	7	5	6	3	1
1	6	5	3	4	8	2	9	7
8	2	4	7	3	9	6	5	1
7	9	1	5	8	6	3	2	4
3	5	6	4	2	1	7	8	9
4	7	9	8	6	5	1	3	2
6	8	2	1	7	3	9	4	5
5	1	3	2	9	4	8	7	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is never repeated in a row or column. In addition, every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.



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Finance

IMF raises Latin America, Caribbean growth outlook

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The International Monetary Fund yesterday raised a notch its growth estimates for Latin America and the Caribbean this year, in line with a modest advance in the global economy.

The IMF projected a 3.7 percent growth rate for 2012, up from its January estimate of 3.6 percent. For 2013, growth in the region was expected to pick up a tenth percentage point to 4.1 percent.

The improved outlook comes amid slightly faster growth in the global economy than was seen in January: 3.5 percent for 2012 and 4.1 percent for 2013.

Emerging and developing economies continued to lead global growth, outpacing an

"anemic" rate in the advanced economies.

The IMF warned that policymakers needed to remain vigilant to potential challenges emanating from Europe's debt crisis and volatile capital flows.

"The region has had difficulty absorbing hot money in the past and this remains an ongoing source of vulnerability," the IMF said in its twice-yearly World Economic Outlook report.

The biggest economies in the region have felt "significant effects" from the sharp swings in risk aversion in global markets over the past six months.

"Spillovers to the region through trade, financial, and banking channels were active

during recent months but with only limited effects on activity," said the report, issued ahead of this week's IMF spring meetings.

Concerns about Europe's crisis led to a temporary reduction in capital flows, but there was no reversal of flows, which the IMF noted was a "net positive for the region."

Brazil, Latin America's powerhouse, was projected to grow 3.0 percent this year, unchanged from the January estimate; Mexico's economy would expand 3.6 percent, while Peru's rate was the highest in the region, at 5.5 percent.

Argentina was poised for 4.2 percent growth, the IMF report said, noting that the quality of the government's data remained in question.

NEW YORK: A protestor wears stickers on his face during a tax day demonstration in front of the James A. Farley Post Office on April 17, 2012 in New York City.

Dozens of protesters participated in a demonstration against loopholes that allow banks and corporations to pay lower income taxes than most individual tax filers. Similar rallies were held across the city throughout the day.

(AFP PHOTO)



Venezuela's PDVSA sees 42% profit jump in 2011

CARACAS (AFP) - Surging crude oil prices helped push the 2011 profit of Venezuela's state-owned oil group PDVSA up 42 percent to \$4.496 billion, Energy Minister Rafael

Ramirez announced yesterday.

Ramirez, who is also head of the company, released the annual report showing revenues up 31.4 percent from a year earlier to \$124.75 billion.

Petroleos de Venezuela, the main source of revenue for firebrand President Hugo Chavez's government, benefitted from the rise in global crude oil prices following the Arab Spring uprisings. The average price was \$101 per barrel, up 39 percent, PDVSA said.

Ramirez, quoted by the state news agency AVN, said PDVSA expects to boost investments by 12 percent to \$18 billion in a move aimed at increasing production.

The South American nation says it produces three million barrels per day, although the Organization of Oil Exporting Countries estimates production at 2.3 million barrels.

OPEC last year estimated Venezuelan reserves at 296.5 billion barrels, which would make it the largest in the world, ahead of Saudi Arabia. Last month, government officials said the reserves were even higher at 297.57 billion.

Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as of: 04/17/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.81
Britain	GBP	2.77	2.82	2.88
Switzerland	CHF	194.47	195.19	195.99
Netherlands	EUR	231.77	233.89	236.24
Sweden	SEK	25.34	26.06	26.86
Denmark	DKK	30.48	31.20	32.00
Norway	NOK	30.02	30.74	31.54
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ECB deputy: Markets have overreacted on Spain

FRANKFURT (AFP) - The financial markets have "overreacted" with regard to Spain, European Central Bank deputy president Vitor Constancio said yesterday as Spanish borrowing costs rose sharply amid renewed eurozone debt tensions.

"Well, we think that markets perhaps overreacted. We hope that all the clarifications and decisions taken by the government will change market perceptions," Constancio told reporters on the sidelines of an ECB conference.

"We trust that the commitments that have been approved will be fulfilled and the targets will be achieved. It's now a matter, we think, of time that these will really work out," he said, referring to Spanish government measures to tackle the crisis.

The eurozone bond markets have been tense in recent days but yesterday Spain managed to sell short-term debt, showing that it still has access to the market, but at sharply increased interest rates.

Spain warns Argentina over Repsol takeover

MADRID (AFP) - Spain warned yesterday that Argentina's takeover of oil giant Repsol's YPF subsidiary broke a "good understanding" between the two as Repsol demanded at least \$10 billion in compensation.

The government backed the company, angrily pledging to take a range of measures against Argentina after its president, Cristina Kirchner, announced she would nationalise the firm in defiance of Madrid's demands.

The European Union, too, warned Buenos Aires that it was sending the wrong signal to investors who dumped Repsol shares, sending them 6.06 percent lower.

"These acts will not remain unpunished," promised Repsol executive chairman Antonio Brufau after Argentina's decision to take 51 percent of YPF, virtually wiping out Repsol's a 57.4 percent holding.

Repsol would seek an amount at least equal to the value of its stake in YPF, which the firm estimates at \$10.5 billion, the Repsol chief said.

"Repsol will launch all legal actions that are within its

reach," Brufau vowed, saying he had a wide range of options including constitutional, commercial and civil actions.

Spain's government summoned Argentina's ambassador, Carlos Bettini, for the second time in five days to ask why Buenos Aires had ignored warnings against intervening in the Repsol subsidiary.

"Argentina has shot itself in the foot in a serious way," Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo told reporters.

"What worries me is that this means a cut, or at least distrust, in relations that have been really fraternal for a very long time," he said.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

UNO	AIMS	SCI
SOP	DRAW	POET
MAT	OKRA	ELLS
CHIRP	PAR	
CATER	SUSAN	
SHIN	DONS	ETE
LOAD	GUY	TROD
INN	PEGS	HEMS
TESTS	HERON	
III	IRAQI	
SILL	SUMO	DEA
HAIL	APED	EIN
EMS	WAGE	SIS

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Another remarkable demonstration of artistry and ingenuity at the 11th Annual AHATA Environmental Committee Recycled Art Expo



A young artist with her work



Minister Dowers joins the fun



tires make attractive planters



supermarket bag art from Lucia Maduro

The Environmental Committee of the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association (AHATA) was pleased to announce they had 105 entries for their annual expo and competition of recycled art, which opened on Monday afternoon, April 16, in the Cas di Cultura exposition room in Oranjestad.

Aruba's Minister of Justice and Education, Arthur Dowers was present to admire the creativity of island school children, employees of resorts and businesses, and professional and amateur artists regarding making "trash into treasure;" the entries run the gamut from decorative to highly useful items such as lamps, memo holders, planters, magazine racks, and much more.

One of the most impressive entries were Carnival Queen costumes made with discarded plastic bags, cups and bottles from Cyndi Mathilda, which had actually been used

during Carnival 58 by young entrants, one of them winning Best Costume at the Paulus Elementary School queen election.

It took 953 bottle caps to create the attractive baskets entered by Sidney and Cindy Regales, and the 5C class of Colegio Conrado found that rolled magazine pages could also produce some lovely, colorful baskets. Professional artist and teach Miriam De L'isle also found a use for the many leftover magazines in her house; the tightly rolled pages proved perfect for producing stunning picture or mirror frames.

Many found excellent use for all those leftover plastic bags from local markets. The diversity of bright colors makes them perfect for weaving into handbags, hats, and other accessories. Something very new, adorable, and wonderfully clever was the family of animal memo holders produced by Sade Jacobs from

old books and defunct agendas.

It is this demonstration of cleverness and creativity while bringing home the important message of recycling to island youth that makes the two-week exposition so delightfully entertaining. It is open to the public daily, Monday through Friday, from 10:00 am to noon and from 2:00 to 7:00 pm and on Saturday, April 21 it will be open in the afternoon from 2:00 to 5:00 pm; closed on Sunday.

The exposition will close on Friday, April 27 with the announcement of the winners of the competition. Several prizes are awarded in the category of Schools, Businesses and Resorts, and Individual entries, Professional Artist and Amateur, most being dinners for two, activities and weekend stays, kindly donated by AHATA members and sponsors of the event.



recycled queen costumes

by Rosalie Klein

Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up

and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples.



Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,



high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting online at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.

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SPORTS

Tennis: Murray hits ground running, birthday win for Tsonga



Andy Murray of Britain returns the ball to Viktor Troicki of Serbia

MONTE CARLO (AFP) - Andy Murray made a winning return to clay and Jo-Wilfried Tsonga celebrated his 27th birthday with a victory as both seeds reached the third round of the Monte Carlo Masters on Tuesday.

Murray, third in the field behind Novak Djokovic and seven-time winner Rafael Nadal, sprang to life to start his clay campaign with a 6-0, 6-3 hammering of Serb Victor Troicki.

Fourth seed Tsonga thrilled the crowd with his 6-2, 6-4 demolition of German Philippe Kohlschreiber in less than 90 minutes, while saving six break points.

"I don't remember playing on my birthday as a professional," said Tsonga, who was serenaded by fans from the stands.

"I'm sure it happened when I was younger, of course. Now that I'm 27, I'm in the second part of my career. I'm not that young anymore. I played my first professional match at 19 years old.

The pair were joined in the third round by Spanish 13th seed Fernando Verdasco, who overcame Ivan Dodig of Croatia 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.

Murray beat Troicki under the watchful eye of coach Ivan Lendl, the mentor who has forged some steel into his game.

"The goal is Paris, that's what we are working on now," said Murray, in reference to the French Open.

Murray showed poise as he put his final loss to Djokovic at the Miami Masters just over a fortnight ago behind him.

Murray, who reached the

semi-finals a year ago before losing to Nadal, improved to 18-4 for the season as he began his preparations for Roland Garros.

In the first round, Houston winner Juan Monaco, who arrived only the night before the match, fell victim to an ankle injury.

The Argentine 11th seed rolled his right ankle in the fifth game of the final set against Dutchman Robin Haase, who went through 7-5, 0-6, 2-3.

Swiss Stanislas Wawrinka knocked out Spanish 10th seed Feliciano Lopez 6-1, 6-4, while Japanese 12th seed Kei Nishikori beat Albert Ramos 6-2, 7-5 but German 14th seed Florian Mayer lost 3-6, 6-1, 6-3 to Mikhail Kukushkin of Kazakhstan.

Just a few kilometres from the border with Italy, several Italians progressed, with Fabio Fognini eliminating Frenchman Michael Llodra 7-5, 6-3 and Filippo Volandri stopping compatriot Alessandro Giannessi 7-5, 6-3.

Andreas Seppi earned a second-round test with top seed Djokovic after beating Victor Hanescu 6-3, 6-1.

Potito Starace also went through as the injured Carlos Berlocq retired while trailing 4-2 in the first set.

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Poland's ex-sports minister jailed in corruption probe

WARSAW (AFP) - Poland's ex-sports minister Tomasz Lipiec was Tuesday sentenced to three and a half years in prison for corruption, as the Euro 2012 host nation continues to battle against graft on and off the pitch.

Besides ordering the 41-year-old to serve time behind bars, a Warsaw court also banned him from holding any state post for 10 years.

Ironically, former Olympic-level race walker and journalist Lipiec was appointed in 2005 to step up the fight against corruption, which has long tarnished the image of Polish football in particular.

He was tapped by the then conservative coalition government, which had made battling graft a major plank of its 2005 election campaign, where it beat a corruption-mired left-wing administration.

Lipiec was fired in July 2007 after two of his aides were arrested in a probe of

fraud in the rental of Warsaw's state-run Central Sports Centre, and was himself charged in the case three months later.

Lipiec was backed by a far-right party in the coalition, and his political demise contributed to the collapse of the government, leading to an October 2005 snap election which the conservatives lost to Poland's current centrist administration.

He was charged specifically with having taken bribes totalling 100,000 zloty (24,000 euros, \$31,000) in the Central Sports Centre case.

In addition, he was accused of having raked in 170,000 zloty in bribes related to the refurbishment of a municipal ice rink when he was the Warsaw city official in charge of sport in 2004 to 2005.

Lipiec was also ordered to pay back 31,500 zloty in funds he received from Warsaw city hall and government coffers for phoney childcare and chauffeur services.

The Lipiec case is just one of a plethora related to corruption on Poland's sports scene, most of which relate to match-fixing in football.

Over 600 individuals have been jailed or are being prosecuted - including players, referees, club officials and middle-men - and a handful of clubs from various divisions have been relegated as punishment.

With less than two months left until the European championships kick off in Poland and neighbouring Ukraine, the leadership of the Polish football federation has also faced claims of bribery, which it rejects.

15 MINUTE ENGLISH LIFESTYLE & NEWS SHOW

ON 15 AT A LOCAL NBC LICENSEE WEEKNIGHTS 7:15 PM

Football: Late Gomez strike gives Bayern win over Real

continued from page 16

After Ribery had seen a penalty appeal turned down, the Frenchman fired past Real goalkeeper Iker Casillas from close range on 17 minute after Madrid failed to deal with a Kroos corner and the ball fell kindly to the former Marseille winger.

The goal injected some confidence into the Bayern attack as midfielders Kroos and Luiz Gustavo got the better of their Real opponents, while Bastian Schweinsteiger forced Casillas into a diving save.

Likewise, Robben started finding space down the right flank and began to give Real's Sergio Ramos a few problems.

Bayern picked up two first-half bookings, with both

defender Holger Badstuber and Robben earning cautions, but neither will miss the second leg.

With 39 minutes on the clock, Gomez nearly made it 2-0 when Casillas had to stretch to save his shot with half-time beckoning.

But the visitors got back on level terms just seven minutes into the second half.

Bayern goalkeeper Manuel Neuer managed to save Ronaldo's shot, but when Benzema fired the ball back across goal, the Portugal star teed up Oezil for a simple tap-in as Neuer watched on helplessly.

Having squandered several chances and had a penalty appeal turned down, Gomez finally found the net in the 90th

minute after Bayern captain Philipp Lahm squared for the German star to bundle the ball home from close range.

There was a melee in the dying stages after substitute Thomas Mueller was heavily fouled by Madrid replacement Marcelo, who was shown a yellow card, but Bayern now have everything to play for in the return leg in Spain.

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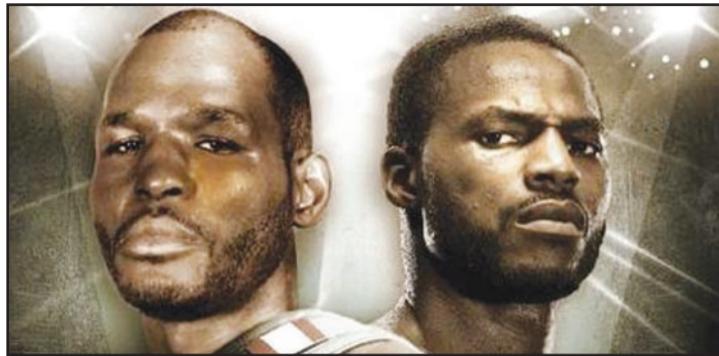
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Boxing: Dawson will try to humble age-defying Hopkins



ATLANTIC CITY (AFP) - Chad Dawson says Bernard Hopkins faked an injury to escape a lopsided defeat last October and plans to pick up where he left off in a world light-heavyweight title rematch next week.

Hopkins, boxing's oldest-ever champion at age 47, defends his World Boxing Council crown on April 28 at Atlantic City in a rematch of a bout that ended in round two when Dawson lifted Hopkins by the leg and slammed him to the canvas.

The fight was halted with Hopkins suffering a left shoulder dislocation. Referee Pat Russell awarded the fight to Dawson, saying no foul was committed, but the result was overturned to no-decision and a title rematch ordered.

Dawson, 30-1 with 17 knockouts, says he could tell in the ring that Hopkins wanted no part of the 29-year-old US southpaw six months

ago.

"I don't really believe Bernard Hopkins was hurt," Dawson said. "He showed he didn't really want to be in the ring with me."

Hopkins, 52-5 with two drawn and 32 knockouts, said that Dawson can think whatever he likes and that he has made no future plans beyond his next fight.

"I'm not going to get into a dog and cat fight. There ain't too much for me to say. It's about what I do," Hopkins said. "Right now I want to beat Chad Dawson. We'll see what the future holds after I beat Chad Dawson."

Hopkins' motivation for a rematch came into question, with promoter Richard Schaefer saying Hopkins wanted the challenge and Dawson promoter Gary Shaw saying the mandated title rematch forced his hand.

Dawson said Hopkins had

Injured Clijsters gives up on clay season

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Belgium's Kim Clijsters announced on Tuesday that she will bypass the clay season, including the French Open, in the hope of recovering from a hip injury in time for the grass season and the Olympic Games.

"The rehabilitation process following Kim's hip injury is going more slowly than expected," read a statement on the former world number one's website.

Clijsters intends to make her

Romanian loses appeal over US basketball player's death

BUCHAREST (AFP) - A Bucharest court on Tuesday threw out an appeal by a 25-year-old Romanian against a five-year jail sentence for the fatal beating of US basketball player Chauncey Hardy, Medfax news agency reported.

Ionut Adrian Tanasoaia was found guilty in February of "inflicting deadly blows" on the former Sacred Heart University, Connecticut player in Giurgiu, southern Romania during the night of October 8 to

little choice.

"I guess it's all about his legacy," Dawson said. "If I was him I wouldn't want to go out on a bad note like that, ducking somebody."

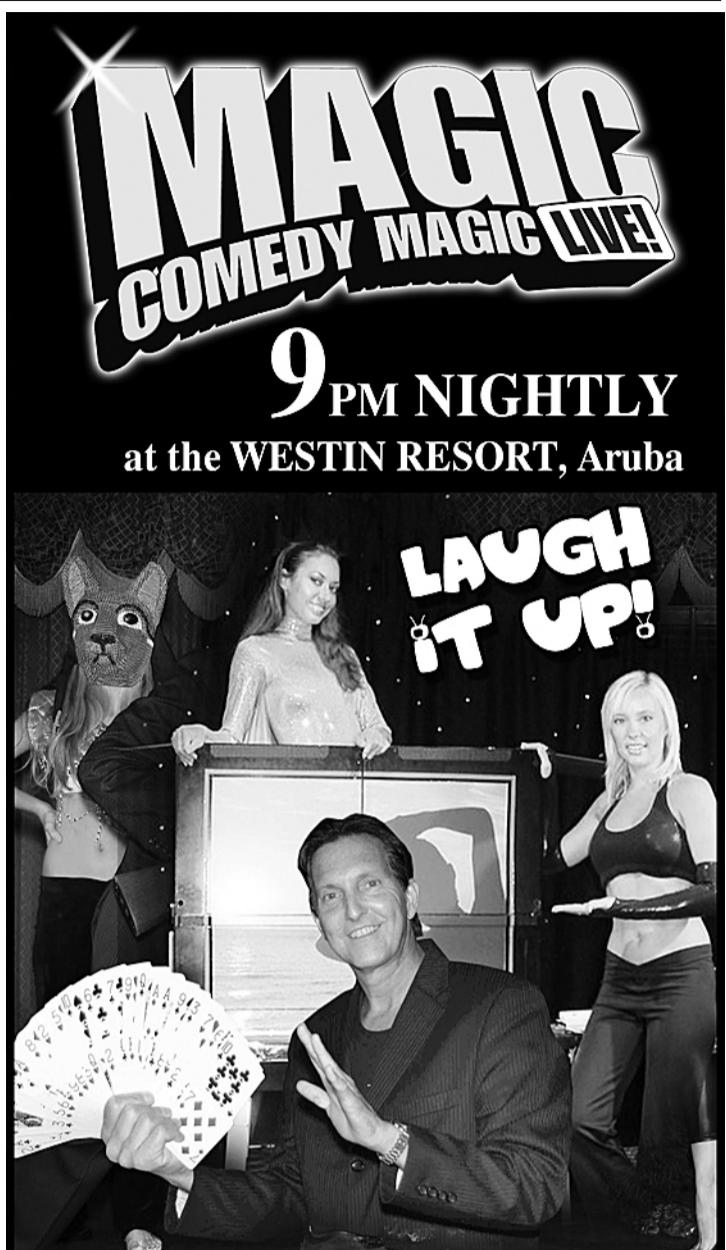
Hopkins gave a simpler reason -- "Because I'm a legend" -- among several rants on Tuesday about his career, saying that even if he beats Dawson, some will diminish the feat -- "Look for an excuse when it's all said and done."

Hopkins railed against boxing politics that kept him from fighting from more than a year after a 2008 upset victory over Kelly Pavlik at Atlantic City and the desire to promote younger fighters that he keeps beating.

"Maybe Bernard Hopkins is just better than a generation. They just don't want to give me the credit," Hopkins said.

"I believe I'm the most under-rated fighter that ever laced on a pair of gloves and reached the level I've reached in my 24-year career and that's the motivation for me to keep proving who I am."

Dawson gives full respect for all that Hopkins has accomplished but plans on leaving no doubt as to who is the better fighter this time, possibly by inflicting the first knockout defeat of Hopkins' career.



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Masters champion Watson pulls out of Quail Hollow

CHARLOTTE (AFP) - Masters champion Bubba Watson has withdrawn from the US PGA Wells Fargo Championship next month at Quail Hollow, citing his schedule and the need to spend time with his family.

Watson will defend a title next week at New Orleans and take part in the Players Championship two weeks after that, a hectic pace for the long-hitting American who won his first major title April 8 at Augusta National.

Watson and his wife adopted a baby boy last week and have had little time to adjust to parenthood much less the attention

focused upon Watson after he beat South Africa's Louis Oosthuizen in a Masters sudden-death playoff.

"We certainly will miss seeing Bubba and we completely understand," said Wells Fargo Championship executive director Kym Hougham. "He has been a great ambassador for our event and I know he and the family will join us next year."

The Wells Fargo will be staged May 3-6 and will include 14-time major champion Tiger Woods, reigning US Open champion Rory McIlroy, four-time major winner Phil Mickelson and World No. 3 Lee Westwood.

Duo team victorious in the Round Aruba Race

Hats off to Evertjan and Peter, the winners of 'Rondje Aruba'!



Hats off to Evertjan van Dasselaar and Peter Rietveld, the two top athletes who won the 'Rondje Aruba' race, the 75-kilometer run around the island. A total of 40 teams stood at the ready for the midnight start last Friday, divided into teams of four runners, three duo teams, one speed walking team and one solo runner. Before the gate of the Marine Headquarters in Savaneta came into sight, Evertjan had already overtaken the first few competitors and after that they only had one goal: run like the wind to be able to finish first. After just 5 kilometers, this might have seemed a tiny bit optimistic, but the two athletes kept their heads straight, focused and went for it!

After 18 kilometers Peter took over from Evertjan: he tackled a tough and quite dangerous route on the North coast of the island. And even though the circumstances were difficult in the dark night, he kept his speed up, finishing his part of the race in a record time. Both runners knew then that they were only half-way after 40 kilometers, but that a first place was a possibility with just a few more hours to go!

At the final change the duo was still ahead of the other teams, even the four-men, strong teams. Their vision of winning Rondje Aruba did not seem too far-fetched, even attainable, and the final 20 kilometers were

for Peter a chance to give his all while the cocks in the districts that he passed were crowing in the first morning light. The finish, the Marinierskazerne, came in sight after 5 hours and 28 minutes and applause and cheers accompanied the two tired runners, who were sponsored by Runners Aruba, the specialist store for runners on the Middenweg 3, as they raised their arms in victory as they crossed the line. Well done, Evertjan and Peter!

Football: Late Gomez strike gives Bayern win over Real



Bayern Munich's striker Mario Gomez (L) shoots to score in front of Real Madrid's goalkeeper and captain Iker Casillas (R)

MUNICH (AFP) - Bayern Munich are on course to reach next month's Champions League final at their Allianz Arena home after Mario Gomez hit a late winner to earn a 2-1 victory over Real Madrid in Tuesday's semi-final first leg.

After France winger

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having never lost at home to Madrid, with nine wins and a draw in their 10 meetings in Munich since 1976.

Bayern are now in pole position to return to Munich for this year's Champions League final on May 19, when they will face either holders Barcelona or Chelsea, who meet in the first leg of their semi-final on Wednesday.

Both teams started at full-strength, with wingers Ribery and Arjen Robben either side of Toni Kroos behind Gomez in Bayern's attack.

Real coach Jose Mourinho opted to start with France's Karim Benzema as striker in front of Oezil, who was flanked by Argentina's Angel di Maria and Portugal star Cristiano Ronaldo.

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